

24th March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord / Easter Sunday - Year B

**Readings and antiphons:**

**Procession:** Mark 11:1-10

**First Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-7

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 r. 2  
R: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

**Second reading:** Philippians 2:6-11

**Gospel Acclamation:**

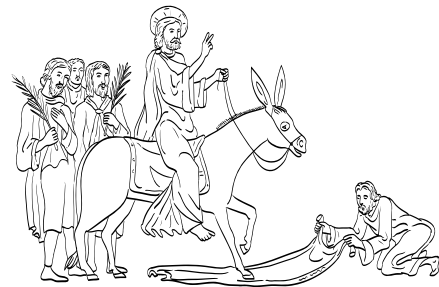
Phil 2:8-9  
*Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.*

**Gospel:** Mark 14:1-15:47

*The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ*

**Communion Antiphon:**

Mt 26:42  
*Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.*



**Funerals and Deaths:**

**Mary Prosser RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's, 23rd March at 2pm

**Margaret Mackey RIP**



**Richard Phirrie RIP**

*Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.*

**Baptisms:**

*Please pray for Tom, Charlotte, and all candidates who are preparing to be Confirmed and/or received into the Church this Easter.*



**A Message from Fr Mark...**

***It's what God says to us and through us that matters***

Over these past five and a half weeks of Lent, since Ash Wednesday, as part of this Year of Prayer, I've been encouraging us all to "Listen to God's Heart".

I began by quoting St. Mother Theresa of Kolkata,

***"God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer."***

On the First Sunday of Lent, I encouraged you to ***"step forward in faith"***, taking time each day to prayerfully risk opening yourself to a new way of hearing God whispering His Love into the depth of your being. Then I asked you to heed the command of our heavenly Father and ***"listen to His beloved Son"***, knowing that ***"hearing God is necessary for friendship with God"***.

I invited you to a deeper awareness that often ***"actions speak louder than words"*** and that God announces His immense Love to us, powerfully and personally, through the free gift of Jesus and His life, death and resurrection.

Then, last weekend, I used the story of a farmer in a big city, somehow able to hear a cricket in spite of the din around him, to remind us that ***"we hear what our ears are trained to hear"***. In training our own ears to hear God and then doing what he says, by obeying him, we can yield a rich harvest of freely-given, obediently-offered, life-transforming, sacrificial love, all for the glory of God.

This weekend we enter into Holy Week. Our First Reading comes from the prophet Isaiah. It is a portion of the Song of the Suffering Servant. Our passage begins:

*The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear.*

What a beautiful image!

This week we will be given the opportunity to meditate upon the Passion of Jesus. He had spent his life speaking His Father's Word of Life, "replying" to the wearied. Now he becomes wearied for our sake.

The Sovereign Lord gave his Servant all he needed to be obedient – a disciple's tongue so that he could speak "the word that sustains the weary;" an opened ear so that he could listen to the word of his Father and always obey, even when it was difficult. Contrary to Israel that often persecuted the weak and weary and worn, Jesus sought them out in his mercy. And unlike Israel that was often deaf to God's word, Jesus' was always perfectly attuned to God's word. Though the enemies would humiliate him, Jesus would not be put to shame, because the Sovereign Lord would ultimately vindicate his Servant by raising him from the dead.

Jesus offers a word of comfort to the weary and worn and sad who languish in Exile or in sin. God's last and best word is not an explanation or even a promise; it is a person, this Servant who would do all they had not done and suffer as though he had committed all their sin. The Sovereign Lord would deliver them by the active and passive obedience of the Suffering Servant named Jesus.

Jesus wants us to be his disciples! He wants us to learn from him, to follow him, to become like him. Therefore, each day, he wakes you to hear, to listen like a disciple! To listen to his voice and do what he instructs.

Why does he do this? So you may then speak in his name, pouring forth not empty, meaningless nonsense, but His Word. He wants you to know how to reply to the wearied, on His behalf. You are God's "personalised special delivery system" of hope and encouragement, joy and strength, courage and peace to those who labour and are over-burdened. Our Father so desperately wants to pour out his immense and healing Love onto our broken world but to do that he needs you. More, he needs you to listen to Him so that you know what to say.

What a beautiful privilege!

Please come and join us for our Holy Week liturgies. It really is the most beautiful and powerful time of our Church year.

***"I always begin my prayer in silence, for it is in the silence of the heart that God speaks. God is the friend of silence-we need to listen to God because it's not what we say but what He says to us and through us that matters".*** - Mother Teresa



31st March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord / Easter Sunday - Year B

**Readings and antiphons:**

**Entrance antiphon:** Ps 138: 18. 5-6  
*I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.*  
*You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.*  
*Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.*

**First Reading:**  
Acts 10: 34. 37-43

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Ps 117 (118)  
*R: This day was made by the Lord, rejoice and be glad.*

**Second reading:** Colossians 3: 1-4

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
1 Cor 5:7-8  
*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;*  
*therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.*

**Gospel:** John 20: 1-9  
*He must rise from the dead*

**Communion Antiphon:**  
1 Cor 5: 7-8  
*Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;*  
*let us feast with unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia*

**Divine Mercy**

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection** on Saturday **13 April 2024 from 1pm-4:30 pm** at **St Mary's RC Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2.** The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

**Divine Mercy Sunday** will be celebrated at St Peter's on **Sunday 7th April at 3pm** with Mass in honour of the Feast of Divine Mercy. The celebration will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Veneration of the Image. In honour of The Feast a Plenary Indulgence will be granted to all who celebrate it, who fulfil the usual conditions of receiving the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion and who offer prayers for the Pope's intentions. There will be refreshments in the Pastoral Centre after the Mass and all are welcome.

**Lent:**

**Stations of the Cross**

**St Peter's** - 4pm every Sunday and 11:30am every Friday during Lent  
**St Stephen's** - 7pm every Monday  
**St Thomas More** - 5:30pm every Friday  
**St Gregory's** - 5:30pm every Sunday

**"Listening to God's Heart" (Daily Messages)** - Lent is a wonderful opportunity for each and every one of us to grow in our faith and our relationship with the God who loves us. We're inviting you to sign up for a daily email during Lent and Easter (from Ash Wednesday until Pentecost). You can sign up by filling in a [short form here](#) or calling the parish office.

**Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities** - Last week was Covenant With the Poor (5th Sunday of Lent). Good Friday 29th March second collection is for the Holy Land Appeal. Please donate here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/good-friday-collection-for-christians-in-the-holy-land>

**Lent for Families** - Each week, suggestions will be available on our website ([click here](#)) for how to live Lent more fruitfully as a family. These will include scripture reflections, Saints' feast days, Lenten activities and suggestions for prayer.

**Courses/Events:**

**First Reconciliations** Please pray for the 60 children who will be making their First Reconciliation in our parish this weekend and two others who are preparing to be baptised at Easter. They have all been journeying together with their families since Advent and will make their First Holy Communion in July.

**Parish Reconciliation Service - Tuesday 26th March at 7pm - St Peter's**  
During the season of Lent, we are asked to prepare our hearts for the Lord in his glorious resurrection. One way of preparing ourselves spiritually is through the gift of Confession. On **Tuesday 26th March at 7pm**, we are holding a Parish Reconciliation Service at St Peter's. Multiple priests will be available to hear your confessions, including our own parish priests. As Catholics, we are particularly obligated to go to Confession during periods of preparation (i.e. Lent and Advent), so please make use of the extra time on offer this Holy Week.

**St Peter's Sanctuary Welcome Hub** - takes place every Wednesday from 10.00 - 12.00 in the Pastoral Centre and has been welcoming people from overseas for nearly two years. We would like to extend our hospitality to all in the Parish that would like to come in for a chat and refreshments. There is no need to let us know you are coming, we will be ready to welcome you.

**The Warm Hub** - runs before the Welcome Hub, we serve light breakfast at 9AM. We look forward to seeing you - please spread the word...

**CTIA Easter Monday Walk** - Too much chocolate on Easter Day? Join us for a walk of about 4 miles at 10.00 a.m. meeting outside Freightways (formerly White & Etherington) at the south end of New Farm Road. May well be muddy. Optional climbing of a five bar gate for the more athletic! Any queries to Rex Corfield (alresfordcorfields@talktalk.net) who is leading.

**The Easter Blessing of Food (Święcone)**  
The Easter blessing of food is taking place at **midday** on **Saturday 30 March** at **St Peter's**. (Błogosławienie pokarmów wielkanocnych odbywa się w południe w **sobotę 30 Marca** w **kościółce św. Piotra**.)

**CWL Soup & Pud Lunch at St Peter's.** The next CWL Charity Lunch, in the Pastoral Centre, will be on **Friday 5th April** and will be in aid of the RNLI. The RNLI is celebrating its centenary this year and we wish to support those volunteering on the Lifeboats around the British Isles. All are very welcome to come along and enjoy delicious home cooked food, **12-1.30pm**. Suggested donation £7.

**Cake sale & chocolate tombola at St Gregory's - Sunday 7th April after the 11am Mass.** Contributions of cakes on the day would be very welcome. If any parishioners are buying chocolate for Easter; please could you buy a little extra and donate it for the tombola. A box will be in the porch for contributions. Many thanks. Imelda Simons.

**Soup & Pud Lunch at St Gregory's**  
A Date for your diaries! For the Soup and Pud Lunch at St Gregory's on Tuesday 23rd April, 2024, from 1200 noon until 2.00pm, in aid of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Homemade food. Dietary requirements catered for. Please come and support.

**Vacancies/Volunteering:**

**Vacancy for a Deputy Headteacher at St Peter's School**

- We currently have a vacancy for a Deputy Headteacher. Please see our website for further details:  
<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>  
 Please note: the closing date is 15th April 2024.

**Diocesan Vacancies**

Please follow the link for current vacancies throughout the Diocese:  
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

**Bookshop** - We have a good selection of Bibles, Missals, rosaries, crosses, books and cards for Easter, as well as gifts and cards for First Holy Communion and Confirmation and items for Divine Mercy. Open weekdays during office hours. Thanks for your support, Susan Henry



**Key Contacts:**

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our [website](#) or email [hello@stpeterswinchester](mailto:hello@stpeterswinchester) to be directed to the correct person.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Hogan

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Benedict Ndikum

**Deacons:** Tony Darlison & Martin McElroy

**Parish Office:**

[office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Finance:**

[accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Tel.** 01962852804

**Newsletter:**

[newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

(deadline for items for next weekend's newsletter is

**Wednesday evening)**

**Laudato Si Corner**

**Walking into Holy Week**

As we enter Holy Week, CAFOD is encouraging all of us to 'Walk to Easter'. Why not leave the car behind and make a walk part of our Lenten reflections? Here are some ideas:

- Take part in the Cathedral palm procession from the Guildhall on Sunday
- Walk the Winchester Stations of the Cross prepared by Churches Together in Winchester - some leaflets remain at the back of church
- Walk to one of the Triduum services.
- Sponsor Liza and support CAFOD's Big Lent Walk here:  
<https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/liza-nahajski>.



**Continued...**

**Collection on Good Friday is for Christians in the Holy Land**

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection supports the Christian community in the Middle East.

This last year has been particularly challenging for this small community which seeks 'to be the salt, light and leaven of the Gospel' in the region, often living in difficult circumstances.

Here is the link to the Give As You Live page for this Good Friday:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/good-friday-collection-for-christians-in-the-holy-land>.

**Holy Water**

Following the blessing of the holy water at the Easter Vigil, parishioners are encouraged to bring their bottles and refill them from the vat by the sacristy door at St Peter's

**News from St Peter's School:**

**Girls Footie:**

On Friday 8th March, all the girls in KS2 got involved in a record breaking Biggest ever Football session. We played a range of different football-based activities, including a 'keepy uppy' competition. At St Peter's we are part of a Year 5/6 Local League for girls and enjoy going to a match once a month against another school. Our aim is to have even more girls joining to represent our school and learn a love of football.

**Year 6 River Trip:**

On Wednesday 13th March, Year 6 went on a trip to view the River Itchen at each stage of its development. We had the opportunity to track the river from its source, body and finally the mouth. This journey took our Year 6s from Cheriton to Southampton, and was a refreshing way to enrich their geography learning.

Along the way, we considered how each part of the river was different and how each had changed since the last. Everyone enjoyed a day in the fresh, countryside air and were blown away by the beautiful views of the sea at Ocean Village, which is the mouth of the River Itchen! Safe to say, our children will be more than equipped to continue their geography learning comparing the River Itchen to those elsewhere in the world. Well done Year 6!

**Pre-School Applications:**

If you have pre-school children and like the sound of St Peter's School then why not contact us to find out about the application process? Telephone 01962 852820 or email [admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk).

Best wishes, Louise Buxton (Miss) - Headteacher



**DON'T FORGET...** we lose an hour of sleep on **March 31, 2024, when the clocks go forward by one hour** to mark the beginning of British Summer Time.



**Appeals/Giving:**

**Easter Sunday Collection** traditionally supports our Parish Priests, in recognition for all the dedication, care and guidance they give across our Parish. There are several ways that you can make an offering:

- via the **card reader** at the back of church
- **loose cash or cheques** in the collection basket (**please make cheques out to "CDP St Peter and Winchester Martyrs"** with "Easter Offering" on the reverse)
- via **bank transfer** to the main Parish Account: *Account name: CDP St Peter & Winchester Martyrs Parish, sort code: 30-93-04, Account number: 00890996, Reference: "Easter Offering"*.
- online via this link: [Priests - Easter Collection 2024](#)

If you are a UK tax payer and wish to **Gift-Aid** your offering, please use the envelopes available in the pews.

**Diocese launches FREE Will Scheme** To mark national Free Wills Month, the Diocese has partnered with market-leading solicitors and will-writing providers to offer anyone over 18 to easily write or update a basic simple or mirror Will for free.

To find out more please email: **Alasdair Akass** (Head of Communications and Fundraising): [aakass@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aakass@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Prayer Corner**

**This Week's Intention:** Let us pray that as we enter Holy Week on our journey towards Easter, our own faith is revitalized by our engagement with the Triduum and Easter masses, bringing us closer to Christ in joy and thanksgiving.



Church Timetable	23rd March - 30th March 2024		
<b>Saturday</b> <b>23rd March - of the 5th week of Lent</b>  <b>Vigil Mass</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	William Tobias McCall & Family
	<del>9:30AM-10:30AM</del>	<i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>	
	<del>10:00AM - 12.30PM</del>	<i>First Reconciliations ONLY</i>	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday</b> <b>24th March</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Special intention & conversion of James Gomez Murphy
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Soul of Patrick Leaky
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Kitty & John Keane RIP Dennis Hannon RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Joan Pollard RIP
	4:00PM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Peter's</i>	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Jo & Colin Francis & all the family around the world
	5:30PM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's</i>	
<b>Monday</b> <b>25th March</b> <b>Of Holy Week</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Rodel Franco (Birthday)
	7:00PM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's</i>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>26th March</b> <b>Of Holy Week</b>	6:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the benefactors
	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The intentions of Maria
	<del>12:15PM</del>	<del>Mass at St Peter's</del>	
	7:00PM	<i>Reconciliation Service at St Peter's</i>	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>27th March</b> <b>Of Holy Week (Spy Wednesday)</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The soul of William Meader
<b>Thursday</b> <b>28th March</b> <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	<del>8:00AM-9:00AM</del>	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	<del>10:00AM</del>	<del>Mass at St Peter's</del>	
	7:30PM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Peter's	Fikile and Bzuln special intention
	8:00PM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Gregory's	
<b>Friday</b> <b>29th March</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<del>8:00AM-9:00AM</del>	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	9:45AM	<i>Family Way of the Cross at St Peter's</i>	
	9:45AM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's</i>	
	12:00PM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Peter's</i>	
	3:00PM	<i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Peter's</i>	
	3:00PM	<i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Gregory's</i>	
	5:30PM	<i>Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More</i>	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>30th March</b> <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>  <b>Vigil Mass</b> <b>EASTER VIGIL</b>	9:00AM	<i>Office of Readings and Morning Prayer</i>	
	<del>9:00AM</del>	<del>Mass at St Peter's</del>	
	<del>9:30AM-10:30AM</del>	<i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>	
	12:00PM	<i>Easter Blessing of Food at St Peter's</i>	
	<del>4:30PM-5:00PM</del>	<i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>	
	7:00PM	Easter Vigil at St Peter's	Linda and Liyanda Miotshwa
	8:00PM	Easter Vigil at St Gregory's	



<b>Church Timetable</b>	<b>31st March - 6th April</b>		
<b>Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary Ann & Hugh Mcternan RIP & family members
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More	
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary Prosser RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Deceased members of the McCrosson & McCafferty Families
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	
<b>Monday 1st April Within Octave of Easter</b>	<del>8:00AM - 9:00AM</del>	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Benefactors
<b>Tuesday 2nd April Within Octave of Easter</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Richard Spencer & Concelebrating local Priests
<b>Wednesday 3rd April Within Octave of Easter</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Rev. J Martin
<b>Thursday 4th April Within Octave of Easter</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Peter Arnott
<b>Friday 5th April Within Octave of Easter</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Intentions of Roseann Lynch & Anna Salley & Family
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	CWL - All Volunteering on the Lifeboats around the British Isles
<b>Saturday 6th April Within Octave of Easter  Vigil Mass Second Sunday of Easter</b>	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Souls of Jack and Teresa Lashley
	9:30AM - 10:30AM	<i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	<i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Rachael Ward RIP

**To participate in any service online (including Morning Prayer & Adoration) or to see the recorded services, go to our [YouTube channel](#)**

**ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.**